



ROBERT W. ALLEN, JR.

Editorial and Literary Department.

The New Club Page, Arranged to Give More Page Space.

My Dear Boys and Girls:
The question of space has gotten to be such a serious one that I have made a new arrangement of our page which I hope will enable me to get in more stories and give a greater number of club members a chance to appear. I have arranged to have the club members' list, the burden of weekly selection is one of the responsibilities which your editor has to face. Let me ask you, "Why didn't my letter or my story or my puzzle come out last week?" bring a sigh of longing for room to always print everything that club members send.

When members feel aggrieved they must take into consideration the fact that not every child in a club numbering thousands can expect inevitable recognition. The editor does the best possible thing, and The Times-Dispatch is so good to the children always that I am sure they will agree to be good and wait their turn with patience. New I am not going to take up further time and room except to send additional thanks and appreciation for many lovely valentines received and to thank you also for excellent work in all the different departments you are filling so well.

ALICE M. TYLER.

Week's Prize Winners.

Robert W. Allen, Jr., 17 East Marshall Street, city, for contribution to Literary Department entitled "February Incidents."
Miss Courtney Keith Meade, Manahoe, Amelia county, Va., for an interesting article on "The Pine."
Granville Reid, Keyville, Va., for cartoon on "Beef Trust."

Special Prize.

The special prize for incorporating the curved line goes this week to Master Carey Hatcher, Orange, Va.

Week's Contributors.

Anthony, Blanche
Allen, R. W. Jr.
Barker, Elsie A.
Bowles, Louise E.
Brown, Forrest
Bowles, James
Bennett, G. E.
Bryant, A. G.
Bord, Harry
Baskerville, G. S.
Cooke, Ruth L.
Carnell, Louise
Chadwick, E. V.
Chadwick, W. E.
Chadwick, Harry
Coates, E. F.
Duvall, Emily
Daniel, M. M.
Easley, Beth M.
Early, Mary E.
Early, S. Lucile
Firth, Bertha
Fletcher, Rose
Fuller, Sally
Fry, Edmund
Grimes, Orsa
Gilliam, Mary A.
Gregory, B. J.
Hooker, Claude
Haden, Laura A.
Homes, Nannie
Huntley, Virginia
Hill, Etchell
Holt, Violet J.
Hells, M. M.
Howard, Claude
Harney, K. M.
Hatcher, Carey
Ingram, Catherine
Jackson, Hugh
Justice, A. Mabel
Justice, B. J.
Knapp, Gordon
Lewis, Gay B.
Lockard, W. E.
Lester, Maggie
Marburg, E. J.
Marburg, R. J.
Meade, C. R.
McDermott, F. C.
Melton, Lucy
Morton, Mamie
Marburg, P. E.
Nefzard, Helen
Overton, Ruby G.
Patterson, W. R.
Potts, Thomas R.
Reid, Ida K.
Reid, Granville
Redford, Louise
Rhudy, Mary P.
Rhudy, Jim Ted
Rhudy, Ralph
Raney, Lyra V.
Raney, R. L.
Shore, Samuel
Sheffield, W. A.
Stone, Estelle
Tignor, Helen A.
Tucker, L. A. G.
Tucker, W. D.
Throckmorton, R.
Terry, Edgar
Vincent, Irene
Vincent, Wade H.
Williamson, Mary
Williamson, M.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

George Washington was born in 1732 at Bridge Creek, Westmoreland county, Va. When he was twenty-one he carried a message to the French on the Ohio River. The journey was made in midwinter through dense woods and over frozen rivers. Throughout this expedition and the war that followed he displayed much courage. He married Mrs. Martha Custis, and retired from public life for sixteen years, living quietly at Mount Vernon most of the time. In 1773 he was sent as a delegate to the Williamsburg convention. He was chosen commander-in-chief of our army during the war with England, and commanded the army through the War of Independence. He showed skill and sound judgment under many difficulties. He was the first President of the United States, and was re-elected for a second term. When he retired to his home at Mount Vernon, where he spent the rest of his life farming and enjoying his beautiful home. After a brief illness he died December 14, 1799. MARY A. EARLY, Dawsonville, Va.

WASHINGTON.

George Washington was born in Westmoreland county, Va., in 1732. He was very young when his father died, and he was left to take care of his mother. He was a good boy, and loved his mother dearly. Once he was going off to be a sailor, and when he went to tell his mother good-by he found her crying, so he decided to stay at home with her. When he was only twenty-one he was sent over to the Monongahela River to carry a message to the French commander. If he had not been brave then he never would have gone on such a journey. War followed, and he was promoted to

the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and engaged in the war. He then left the army and was married to Mrs. Martha Custis, a widow, of Virginia. He commanded the army throughout the war for independence. He was unanimously elected the first President of the United States, and was inaugurated on the 30th of April, 1789, in New York City, and at the end of his first term he was unanimously re-elected. He retired March 4, 1797, having declined a third term. In September, 1796, he issued his farewell address to the people. He was a Mason, and served as head of his lodge, Washington died at Mount Vernon, Va., after a short illness, December 14, 1799, and was buried there. A beautiful tomb was erected to his memory, and written on the door of it is: "How sleep the brave who sink to rest, With all the country's honors blest." S. LUCILE EARLY, Dawsonville, Va.

THE COUNTRY.

The country is a nice place to live. It has some advantages and some disadvantages. In the spring one who lives in the country can see the trees bud and bloom, gather wild flowers, watch birds make their nests and see the grain planted and harvested. In the winter it is not so pleasant as in summer, but you can always find something to amuse you. The creeks and streams freeze, and it's very nice to go skating, besides going after geese. In summer much fruit grows both wild and tame. Among these are strawberries, raspberries, buckberries, dewberries and blackberries.

The houses in the country are far apart, and the cool, fresh air has room to circulate freely about the homes. It is very pleasant to sit in the shade of a tree and hear the gentle breeze rattle the leaves. CATHERINE INGRAM, Blackstone, Va. Route 1.

THE PINE.

The pine is an evergreen, cone-bearing tree. There are three kinds—the common yellow pine, the long-leaf yellow pine and the white pine. The needles of the common yellow pine are in bundles of two or three, and are four or five inches long. The needles of the long-leaf yellow pine are in bundles of two or three, and are ten or fifteen inches long. The needles of the white pine grow in bundles of four or five, and are from three to five inches in length.

The bundles of needles are arranged spirally on the stem, and when they drop they leave leaf scars. There isn't a certain time of the year when they drop, but they shed just as horses do.

The trunk of the pine differs from other trees in that it grows straight up from the ground to the top. Other trees branch out in different directions.

The cones are the part of the pine that holds the seed. Under each little burr there are two seeds. When the cone gets old and weather-beaten it pops open and drops its seeds. That is why the pine is so scattered. The age of a pine twig may be told by the joints. From joint to joint is one year of age. The age of the trunk may be told by the number of rings.

Out of the trunk may be gotten turpentine, pitch and tar. The trunk makes good lumber.

By COURTNEY KEITH MEADE, Manahoe, Amelia county, Va. Age fourteen.

A FEW INCIDENTS IN FEBRUARY.

(Prize Story.)
February 22, 1732—Birth of George Washington, who in after life became a great military leader, also first President of the United States. The patriot is known as "Father of His Country," for having won this title by the great service which he rendered his native land in the hour of its greatest need.

February 16, 1862—The surrender of Fort Donelson to the Federal forces. In this garrison there were only 15,000 Confederates against 25,000 Federal soldiers. After a gallant stand against such an overwhelming foe, a flag of truce was sent to General Sherman asking for terms of surrender. "No terms except unconditional surrender," was the reply. The fort was yielded on these hard and unusual terms. This was the first great victory for the Federalists, and it filled the North with joy, but it brought great misfortune to the South.

February 20, 1861—General Pinckney defeated General Seymour at Olustee, near Ocean Pond, Fla., and captured 1,800 prisoners. By this victory the Federal forces were driven from Florida.

February 1, 1865—General Sherman set out from Savannah on his march into South Carolina. He allowed his soldiers to plunder and burn buildings, and all manner of property was destroyed. Sherman's march through Georgia and South Carolina stands as the most destructive campaign ever experienced by any invaded country. According to his own account, Sherman did the State of Georgia \$100,000,000 damage.

February 3, 1865—An informal peace conference took place on board a ship in Hampton Roads between President Lincoln and Mr. Seward on one side, and Vice-President Stephens, Mr. Johnson, and Judge Campbell of Louisiana, on the other. Mr. Lin-

coln would hear of no conditions of peace except the immediate return of the South to the Union. The Southern commissioners were instructed to require the recognition of the Confederacy. The two commands could not be made to harmonize and the conference accomplished nothing.

February 17, 1865—General Sherman occupied Columbia. He promised that nothing but public buildings would be destroyed, but contrary to this pledge his soldiers were allowed to pillage the city, and it was finally burned and left in ruins. Sherman tried to leave the impression that General Hampton caused the fire by burning some cotton bales before evacuating the town, but this was proven to be untrue. It was afterwards found out that he accused Hampton of this act in order to shake the faith of the South Carolinians in him.

February 15, 1898—The American battleship Maine, which was lying in Cuban waters to protect the American interests, was blown up on this night. The ship was lifted almost out of the water, and then sent to the bottom of the harbor a confused wreck. A careful investigation showed that the explosion took place outside of the vessel, and this convinced the people of the United States that the Spanish authorities had connived at this atrocious deed.

By ROBERT W. ALLEN, JR., 17 East Marshall Street, Richmond.

"OUR SCHOOL."

Our schoolhouse is located in a good part of town, in the front and Third Avenue on the rear.

It is built of brick, and is two stories high, including a basement, and is a large, roomy building. It has a large room, called the auditorium, for the use of the school, and is also heated by a furnace, and is well lighted and ventilated.

The building contains eight school rooms, with a hat and cloak room attached to each, and a separate closet for each teacher. There are four rooms downstairs and five upstairs, including the library and the principal's private office. The higher grades occupy the rooms upstairs and lower grades the rooms downstairs. There are two large halls, one upstairs and one downstairs, the one downstairs being used as a gymnasium for the school. The auditorium is in the building. There are seven teachers. Professor Johnson is the principal and Professor Fowler the assistant principal. Waterworks are installed in the building, and there are laboratories. The playgrounds are large, but not well equipped, but will be in course of time.

As yet the library contains only a few books, but such as it has are good and helpful.

Those who finish the course of study given out by the school are well prepared to enter almost any college or university in the State.

The attendance for the opening day was very good, there being about 200 pupils present, and there are about 215 enrolled at the present time. The "F. H. S. Literary Society" is composed of all the members of High School, and meets on Friday afternoon. The school is a comparatively speaking new, only being built little over a year and a half.

By ANDREW G. BRYANT, High Street, Franklin, Va.

THE SELFISH BOY.

The selfish boy is one who loves himself only, and nobody else; who does not care whom he deprives of enjoyment so that he can obtain it. He should have anything given him he will keep it all himself. He will be a make he will keep it in his box and eat it alone, sometimes creeping upstairs in the daytime to eat when nobody sees him.

The selfish boy likes playthings, but he does not let anybody play with them. "You shall not beat my hoop, you shall not touch my kite," is constantly on his tongue.

He is ever on the watch to find out if any one has been even near any of his playthings. He is always at the bottom of his heart to rob others, and he thinks that everybody will take from him. When he sits down to his writing, if he happens to make a good letter he holds his hand over it, so that no one may copy it. When he has worked his sum he hugs it up to his breast for fear any one may be benefited by knowing how it was done.

He obtains knowledge, perhaps studies hard for it, but he has no desire to help others. If he should see a fine sight at the window he calls for no one to see it and to share his delight, but feels a pleasure in being able to say, "I saw it and you did not."

The selfish boy cannot see any good of anything unless he is to gain something out of it. He knows well enough how to speak against his school-fellow's article. If it be a knife he will pretend the spring is bad, and find out a hundred faults, but when he has made a good bargain, oh! how he chuckles over it and rubs his hands.

The selfish boy is a great cheat. When he plays marbles he takes care, when an opportunity offers, to kick his alley nearer to the ring; when he makes a false shot he will pretend that it was his earnest. In order to get another shot, when the game is going against him he will pretend he has hurt his knee or his knuckle and cannot play any more.

(To be continued.)

By BARBARA J. GREGORY, King William Courthouse, Va.

Puzzle Department.

JUMBLED NAMES OF PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. Son of master jhef.
2. Make sloo k.
3. Day forth red rubes.
4. O Weerant shogging.
5. Matfilw hat.
6. Yes glassa turns.
7. Ted lovee how rooster.
8. Darn glove clever.
9. Corn ham in a ball.
10. Sand jam ho.
11. Draw sack on an J.
12. Tin man are burn V.
13. If dear jam lars.
14. Nice pie ran flir.
15. Mad as Hon. J. in gucy.
16. Brilhlw an son.
17. Willie m mink clay.
18. In late on berr hen.
19. Jo means more.
20. Cshe a rare truth.
21. Fill more lard lim.
22. Roar lazy yacht.
23. Ann weas John R.
24. Same lantuch.
25. Holy rent J.
26. Sam, Joe and Mis.

Original.
By ANDREW G. BRYANT, High Street, Franklin, Va.

ENIGMA.

I'm found in wet, but not in cold;
I'm found in air, but not in mold;
I'm found in sun, but not in ray;
I'm found in night, but not in day;
I'm found in sea, but not in shore;
I'm found in rain, but not in pour;
I'm found in ground, but not in land;
I'm found in earth, but not in sand;
I'm found in mountain, but not in vale;
I'm found in wind, but not in gale;
My whole you'll find an honored name,
Brave deeds and kindly won him fame.
MASTER MARION F. BROWN, 15 Pine Street, Petersburg, Va.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

On the 22d day of February, 1732, in the county of Westmoreland, George Washington was born, who, from the place he holds in American history, merits more than ordinary mention. He was the son of Augustine Washington and Mary Ball, both by birth Virginians. When he was about five years old his father removed to Stafford county. He received only a plain English education, his first schoolmaster being an old sexton named "Hobby," who lived to see the removal of his pupil, and used to boast that the foundation of George was laid between his knees. It is far more likely that the wise counsel and good example of his father had more to do with the formation of the character of the future patriot than the A. B. C. teachings of old Hobby. "Truth," George said his good father to him one day, "is the loveliest quality of youth. I would ride fifty miles, my son, to see the little boy whose heart was so honest and his life was so pure that I could depend on every word he says." (To be continued.)

Buckner, Va. RUTH COOKE.

THE SETTLEMENT IN VIRGINIA.

In 1841 Sir Walter Raleigh obtained the right from Queen Elizabeth of England to settle in America. He therefore sent out a number of people, who occupied land in the Colony of Virginia. The place was so called by Raleigh who was proud of his title of "Virgin Queen." The settlers did not succeed as well as was expected, and they were glad to get back to England. The Indians taught them to use tobacco and they carried some back to England, where it was then unknown. It is said that a servant of Raleigh who saw him smoking thought him to be on fire and threw a pail of water over him.

(To be continued next week.)

By EDISON LOCKYER, 234 East Grace Street, Richmond.

CITTING ENSLAGE.

When the traction engine has arrived and been set up, the band between it and the ensilage cutter fixed, all of it go out to see them cut ensilage. Last year Henry, my eldest brother, did not work in the pit, but I did. I was in the pit, and Keith said in the pit. The corn, which is planted especially for ensilage is cut and loaded on the wagons, which take it to the pit, where it is put in the cutter and cut into little pieces about an inch long. The cutter is right on the side of the pit, which is about twenty-five feet deep, ten feet wide and thirty-five feet long, and when the corn is cut it goes right in. Of course, it would be a big pile at the side where the cutter is if it wasn't spread out, but Frank and Keith spread it out with pitchforks.

The fun comes in between the wagon loads, when Frank and Keith don't have anything to do. For the first lot is put in we will jump all the way from the top. The ensilage is soft, so it doesn't hurt, but it jars a little. Of course, we are barefooted, because it ruins our shoes, and we go barefooted almost all the time anyway. I reckon I'll have to wear my shoes this summer. When there's only one load in it I jump a lot. I hurt my arm last year and it swelled up real big. We all stand in a row at the edge and see who can get in first; then we run up the ladder and jump again. We jump backwards and turn around in the air. We go sitting down too.

Afr the corn is all cut heavy boards are set on the ensilage and big hooks on its to pack it. In the winter the boards are taken up and the ensilage is ven to it now.

By LUCY A. G. TAYLOR, 7 Virginia Avenue, Barton Heights.

Correspondence Column.

The Lamb Hospital.

Dear Editor,—Jim Ted and papa are in Richmond now. Jim wrote us a card they had been up to Washington for two days and had then returned to Richmond. Jim Ted is visiting Sally Rose and Marie, and is having a great time. We are tending the little lambs while Jim is away. We have to bring some of them in to the fire and feed them from a bottle, they are such dear, cunning little things. We had four of our own lambs in our "Lamb Hospital," and Joe Parsons brought one of his over to put in "the ward," but Joe's lamb died and two of ours died. Rob and Ralph took them off on the flexible drier for the hoarse, and held a funeral and buried them in the snow. We were sorry the little fellows died. Joe's was a twin lamb, and each of ours that died had a twin mate. Your friend, MARY PULTON RHODY, Independence, Va.

P. S.—I enclose Jim's geographical puzzle. He had it ready to take to you and forgot it.

John and Kitty Snowball.

Dear Editor,—One day Uncle Bryant was here and he went to the barn to water his horse, John. When he took John out of his stall "Kitty Snowball" ran in. When he put John back in the stall he put his head down and smelled over "Kitty Snowball," then lifted her up with his teeth and put her in the trough, so she could jump out. John was a good horse, and didn't try to harm the cat. Independence, Va. RALPH RHODY.

Kisses to John Club.

Dear Editor,—I am a little boy seven years old, and I would like very much to join the John Club. I am sending a little drawing, which I hope will take the right path to the page. I will try hard to win a prize and be as faithful a member as I can. I have a little pet dog, her name is Tricie. She can do many cunning tricks. Please send me a badge. With best wishes for you and the club members, I am your new member, MERTON B. HOLLIS, Highland Springs, Va.

(In Wishes a Badge.)

Dear Editor,—I would like very much to become a member of the T. D. C. C. I set the paper every Sunday, and I enjoy very much looking at the T. D. C. C. page. Kindly send me a badge. I enclose a drawing which I hope at any rate will escape the waste basket. Yours respectfully, 1106 Lincoln Place, Brooklyn, N. Y. WALTER W. INCENT.

Reading "The Talisman."

Dear Editor,—Thank you so much for the price, though I was so long waiting. I always did like Hawthorne's tales, and the ones in the book were so nice. I have what I've been waiting for, so now I'll just have to try to get another. I reckon I am reading one of Scott's books now called "The Talisman." It's real good, and so I think I'll read "Frankie," which is a story about how we cut ensilage. I said something in it about my hurling my ankle. Last summer I tried to have been my unlucky one. I was running one day with my little cousin on my back, when I stumbled my toe on a rock and fell down, skinned my leg and hurting my knee so bad I couldn't walk for several days. My cousin was scared, but not hurt. Then, after that got well, I was playing jackracks and fell down on one and stuck it in my knee. It certainly did hurt. I could not walk for a long time. Good-by. Thank you again for the price. Your member, LUCY A. G. TAYLOR.

Picture and Curved Line.

Dear Editor,—I am sending you a picture and a curved and zigzag line to be put into a drawing. I hope they will be acceptable. The picture I send speaks for itself, and every Southern person would see the meaning. The zigzag line does not mean defeat entirely, but victory as well. Many a poor man has laid down his life to hold up the honor of the stars, flags, whose memory we stand in the history of the world and be written on the walls of fame as long as the universe exists. It will not be long before we celebrate the 150th birthday of the Father of His Country, George Washington. I congratulate Willy Chadwick, through the T. D. C. C., for her success as being a prize winner in the Washington Post drawing contest. Her picture was very good. I must close this time, wishing the editor and members of the T. D. C. C. much success. I remain your member, LEEBURG, Va. GORDON KNIPPLE.

Congratulations Harry Chadwick.

Dear Editor,—The incorporated line by Edgar Marburg was fine. I put the line in two drawings; hope one at least is good enough. Harry Chadwick sent me a lovely hand-painted valentine card. I was "real disappointed" (excuse me) because I was not a medalist. I wanted one so bad. I got a valentine card from Ida K. Reid this morning. Your fond member, A. MABEL JUSTICE.

Jarratt, Va.

P. S.—I have just finished reading the Boys' and Girls' Club in the Washington Post. I saw where Harry Chadwick won a \$1 prize. Wasn't she lucky? Sincerely, A. M. J.

That Prize Was Fine.

Dear Editor,—You haven't printed anything from me in a long time. I think all the drawings I send will be fine, especially Edgar Marburg's. Papa's finger is most well now, and it ought to be, for it has been nearly six weeks since I was cut off. That prize you sent me was fine. I'm going to try to win a medal. Yours truly, BERNARD JUSTICE, JR.

Jarratt, Va.

P. S.—Mabel is writing this for me. B. J. JR.

Has Seven Correspondents.

Dear Editor,—Inclosed please find a story and answers to some of the puzzles of last week, which I hope to see in the paper next week. I was very sorry not to see my letter in the T. D. C. C. last week, as I hadn't had time to send in anything for such a long time. I hope to see it next Sunday. I think Ida and Elizabeth Reid and Panny T. Marburg's drawings are fine. It is snowing here now, and I certainly am glad of it to some ways. I correspond with seven of the members, and I think it is so nice. As my letter is getting long I must close. That prize you sent me was fine. I'm going to try to win a medal. Yours truly, M. MARGARET DANIEL, Locust Hill, Va.

Interested in Curot.

Dear Editor,—I think the puzzles and drawings get better every week. I think Garland Davis, Louise Howels and others are very good. I appreciate the prizes that Harry Boyd gave my pictures. I do know why he should wonder at my drawings since he has been particularly good. I send a drawing of Hallett's comet. It appeared to me the first time I saw it. We are watching its progress and are filled with wonder, as is the rest of the animal kingdom. Prospect, Va. J. OTIS HANNAH.

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MARY ANDERSON GILLIAM.



COURTNEY K. MEADE.



RUTH L. COOKE.



IDA K. REID.



LAURA AUGUSTA HADEN.



MAGGIE WILLIAMS.



MAGGIE LESTER.



HELEN A. TIGNOR.



HARRY CHADWICK.



GAY B. LEWIS.



EDGAR TERRY.



WADE VINCENT.



EDGAR MARBURG, JR.



GRANVILLE BORTON.